

U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/073,472
RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT A

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 2368.129

Remarks

Review and reconsideration of the Election of Species dated November 24, 2003, is respectfully requested.

In addition to responding to the Election of Species, Applicant has amended Claims 6, 9, and 15 to correct formalities.

Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter is added to the claims.

ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

The Examiner requires Applicant to elect for initial consideration from either:

Specie A: Figs. 1-7;

Specie B: Figs. 8-10; or

Specie C: Fig. 11.

In response to the Election of Species Requirement, Applicant elects Specie A of Figs. 1-7 with traverse. Species A is readable on claims: 1-3, 6, 9, 15, 16, 18, 20-26 and 29-34.

Review and reconsideration of the Election of Species Requirement dated November 24, 2003, is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully traverses.

Applicant respectfully traverses to the extent that Examiner designates only Claim 1 as generic. Applicant submits that in addition to Claim 1, Claims 2-3, 6, 9, 20-26 and 29 are also generic.

Claim 2 depends from Claim 1 such that the force transmission device includes "two levers (25a, 25b), which are rotatably mounted (29a, 29b) in parallel arrangement respectively on one end to at least one slide bar (16a, 16b) guided for horizontal displacement and on the other end are rotatably mounted (29a, 29b) to at least one lift bar (17a, 17b) guided for vertical displacement parallel to the slide bar (16a, 16b)." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the

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Examiner.

Claim 3 depends from Claim 2 such that "two slide bars (16a, 16b) are provided oriented parallel and bracketing the two levers (25a, 25b)." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Currently Amended Claim 6 depends from Claim 3 such that the slide bars (16a, 16b) are "associated with rollers (22a, 22b) for horizontal guidance on suitable guide bars (27, 27a, 27b) and wherein the rollers (22a, 22b) are mounted rotatably in the slide bars (16a, 16b)." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Currently Amended Claim 9 depends from Claim 2 such that the lift bars (17a, 17b) are "provided with guide rollers (22a, 22b) for vertical guidance on suitable guide elements (13a, 13b), and wherein the guide elements (13a, 13b) are connected essentially rigidly with the lift bars (17a, 17b)." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Claim 20 depends from Claim 2 such that "two lift bars (17a, 17b) are provided in parallel orientation and bracketing the two levers (25a, 25b)." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Claim 21 depends from Claim 2 such that the slide bars (16a, 16b) are "associated with rollers (22a, 22b) for horizontal guidance on suitable guide bars (27, 27a, 27b)." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Claim 22 depends from Claim 21 such that the rollers (22a, 22b) are "mounted rotatably in the slide bars (16a, 16b)." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/073,472
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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 2368.129

Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Claim 23 depends from Claim 21 such that the rollers are "mounted rotatably in the guide bars." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Claim 24 depends from Claim 2 such that the lift bars (17a, 17b) are "provided with guide rollers (22a, 22b) for vertical guidance on suitable guide elements (13a, 13b)." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Claim 25 depends from Claim 24 such that the guide elements (13a, 13b) are "connected essentially rigidly with the lift bars (17a, 17b)." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Claim 26 depends from Claim 1 such that "slide blocks (15a, 15b) are provided for guiding the force transmission device (16a, 16b, 17a, 17b, 25a, 25b) in the sideways direction." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Claim 29 depends from Claim 1 such that the force transmission device includes "a linear motor." Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is generic to each of the species identified by the Examiner.

Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner note that the generic claims are thus claims 1-3, 6, 9, 20-26 and 29.

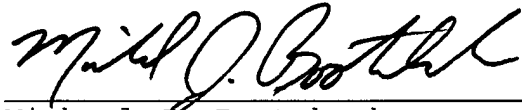
Applicant appreciates that the Examiner will examine the elected species, and if allowable, will examine the remaining species if covered in a generic claim.

U.S. APPLICATION NO. 10/073,472
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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 2368.129

Applicant further notes that the Examiner indicated that claim 14 was pending in the application. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 14 was cancelled in Applicant's Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: **March 24, 2004**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT A for U.S. Application No. 10/073,472 filed February 11, 2002, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, Attn: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 24, 2004.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.


Michael J. Bootcheck